

Message from Deane Toler, Geographic Solutions Marketing Director



Geographic Solutions has a vast amount of experience working with and developing workforce development systems for over 16 individual states throughout the United States. We are pleased to name the State of California as our 17th state system.

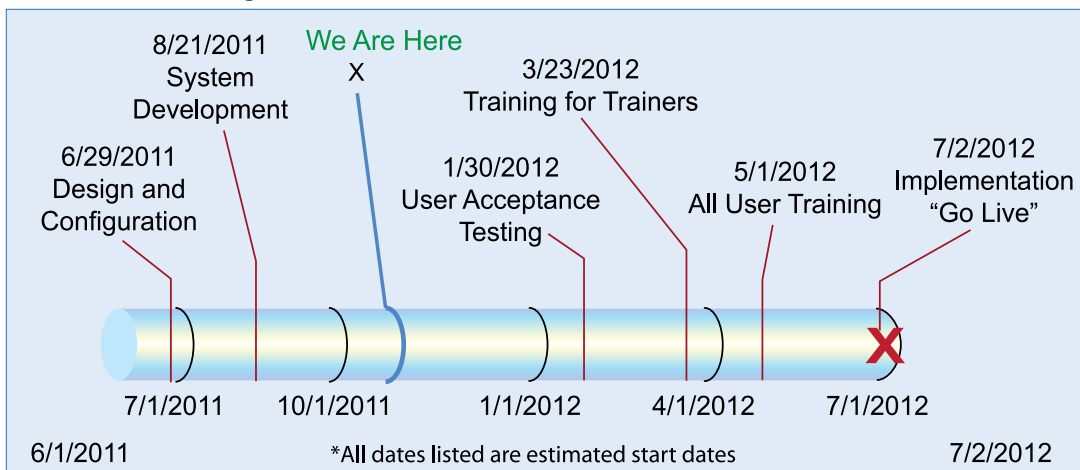
What makes the California Workforce Services Network (CWSN) project so special? It will benefit MY home state of California. A personal mission of mine is to provide workforce development systems that can benefit the job market and stimulate California's economy. Throughout my tenure at Geographic Solutions, I've been a part of many California projects at the local level, beginning with the development of the Monterey

County Virtual One-Stop back in 1999. We have come a LONG way from developing 23 independent local WIB systems and it's truly exciting that soon we will be operating as ONE unified front in the push for re-employment.

The planning and development process of the CWSN project, although complex, is going extremely well. Built on Version 12 of Virtual OneStop®, we have added many enhancements; all of which have been configured to maintain compliance with the way that the State of California provides workforce services as well as satisfying the federal reporting requirements. We are excited to announce that Version 12 will include the addition of many new features including the Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification (WARN), California's Eligible Training Provider List and Cash Drawer functionality.

It is important that we take this opportunity to thank the EDD Implementation Team, who has been a pleasure to work with. We are pleased that, together with such an innovative team, next July we will be able to present California job seekers and employers with the most cutting-edge, automated version of Virtual OneStop!

CWSN Project Status Timeline



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FAQ

Below are some of the frequently asked questions from attendees at the MIS meeting in San Diego. E-mail your questions to cwsn@edd.ca.gov.

1. Q: Will locals have the ability to create Ad-Hoc reports?

A: Yes, the local areas users with the appropriate access privilege will have the capability to create Ad-Hoc reports using the Ad-Hoc query tool contained in CWSN. The local area MIS Administrator will control the access level privileges for their users so locals will control who can create Ad-Hoc reports.

2. Q: What happens with confidential information such as a client's social security number in CWSN?

A: In CWSN the SSN is masked to only display the last four digits of the SSN. This is controlled by access privileges; MIS Administrators will be able to access the complete SSN to resolve issues.

3. Q: When we generate reports, how accurate is the data in CWSN?

A: Reports generated in CWSN are run from a separate reports server that is updated daily. There is a one day lag period between data that is entered in CWSN and when the reports server is updated. The purpose of the reports server is to limit the potential impact of the report processing from impacting the system performance of CWSN.

4. Q: Will it be possible to share Ad-Hoc Reports?

A: Yes, you can save Ad-Hoc queries and share them with others. You will also be able to export the output reports to other formats such as Excel or PDF.

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MIS Administrators Meet in San Diego

By Nancy Cha



(Pictured: Attendees at the San Diego MIS Meeting)

On October 12, 2011, Workforce Services Division Deputy Chief Art O'Neal welcomed 120 attendees from various Employment Development Department (EDD) field and local offices throughout California to the Management Information System (MIS) meeting in San Diego.

The two-day meeting agenda included updates on the Job Training Automation (JTA) system regarding maintenance, self-service clients, performance calculations changes per Department of Labor (DOL), information on the importance of data cleanup prior to implementation, as well as two breakout sessions: "My Life as an MIS Administrator after 7/2/2012" and "Common Performance."

Overall, the attendees enjoyed the question and answer forum, where many expressed their apprehensiveness about the California Workforce Service Network (CWSN) capabilities. Perhaps Art said it best when he described the new system as the "same job, but new tool." Art further elaborated that although California is switching from the JTA and CalJOBSSM systems to the CWSN, the DOL requirements and regulations will remain the same. He compared the new system to purchasing a new car. There is that lovely new car smell, the specs and features are placed differently, but the function does not change. Art reassured that the driving experience will only be enhanced. You can still do your job, just better.

The MIS meetings serve as a platform to bridge the gap between the EDD's field and local partners by providing an opportunity to share changes regarding DOL reporting requirements and system maintenance in a cohesive arena. As the July 2, 2012 implementation date approaches, the content of each MIS meeting will gradually shift from JTA to focus solely on the CWSN. If you missed out on this meeting, be on the lookout for the next one which may be coming to a city near you!

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8. Voilà, you've subscribed and will now receive bi-weekly CWSN updates from the Insider!



"If you don't like something change it; if you can't change it, change the way you think about it."

~Mary Engelbreit

Insider

SPOTLIGHT

Each Insider issue will highlight a member from one of the CWSN Project Teams.



Bob Buckley is a man of few words, but his work speaks volumes. Bob brings 13 years of private industry experience in technical contracting to the Employment Development Department (EDD). He has a pivotal role as the project schedule manager for the California Workforce Services Network (CWSN). He tracks the project's progress to ensure deadlines and deliverables are met. "It has been an interesting challenge for us to develop a CWSN project schedule that accurately models EDD's work and synchronizes with the vendor's schedule, so that we can follow the progress and the relationships between their work and ours," says Bob.

Prior to joining the CWSN Project, Bob worked on the electronic benefits payment project in the EDD Project Management Office. Previously, he was a Project Manager with Caltrans for two years. When Bob is not working, he likes to catch a few baseball or football games and enjoys food!

OCM Corner

The Employment Training Network (ETN)

As we get closer to the implementation of the CWSN, it is important to have staff prepared for the change. Whether it is change itself, communication and presentation skills, or even training techniques, the Employment Training Network (ETN) is available for Employment Development Department (EDD) partners under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA).

The ETN is a multi-faceted, full-service program contracted by the Employment Development Department to assist in the development and implementation of effective WIA programs. The ETN resource library contains books, videos, manuals, brochures and CD-ROMs on a wide variety of employment and training topics available for loan. To find out what materials are available, send an e-mail to EDD.ETN@edd.ca.gov to obtain a subject-specific list complete with helpful abstracts. Available items requested will be sent within 24 hours. To learn more about the services provided by ETN visit their Web site at www.trainingnetwork.org.

5. **Q:** Will training information be shared with current VOS users?

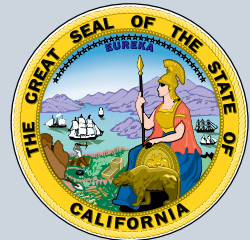
A: Yes, training information will be shared with VOS and non-VOS users once the appointed trainer for your local area has attended vendor system training.

6. **Q:** Will employers receive training on how to use the CWSN?

A: There will be a marketing and informational campaign done by EDD Public Affairs targeted at Employers and Jobseekers. Employer training will be determined and conducted by each LWIA and EDD Field Division for their respective areas, if a need is determined.

7. **Q:** Will training be compartmentalized or comprehensive?

A: Appointed trainers will receive comprehensive training (system overview and specialized) in order to train their entities.



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